

Students Plan To Defy

Bay of Pigs Invasion

New York (UPI) — The student Committee for Travel to Cuba has announced its intention again to defy the State Department ban on visits to the Communist island by organizing a tour contingent this summer twice as large as the one last year. The committee told a news conference here yesterday that more than 100 persons, most of them students from colleges throughout the country, would leave the United States for Cuba on July 1.

22 May 1964

THE HONORABLE RICHARD B RUSSELL
United States Senate
Washington, D.C..

Dear Senator Russell,

This letter is written in relation to the enclosed newspaper article. Please read it before proceeding.

My main interest is to acquire State Department approval to have my name added to the list of individuals undertaking this trip, and on our country's behalf, participate.

At the present, I am a Dental student enrolled at the University of Louisville, Louisville, Ky. I shall be 25 years old this July. From July 61 through June 1963, I was an officer in the 92nd Airborne Division, at Fort Bragg, N.C. My Army service number was [redacted] and I had a security clearance of SECRET. I believe, if you check your letter file, you will find a letter dated 7 Feb. 1963 which I had written to you in regards to the Cuban crisis of Oct. 1962. On 11 Feb, I received a satisfactory reply from your Chief Clerk, [redacted]

For your additional information, I attended Georgia Military College in Milledgeville, Georgia for seven years prior to entering the service and Dental School. I have a limited ability in Spanish and will certainly acquire a better knowledge of the language, prior to departure, if I am able to obtain the necessary approval.

For a character reference, I am able to give you the name of the former Congressman James O. Davis, with whom my family is a close friend. I feel certain that he will be able to give you any information about me if you write him. If you do write him, tell him that I am Mr. Hour's grandson, since he knows my mother and me by her maiden name.

I feel that there should be some information that I can bring back in relation to Cuban economic and military posture which may be of value to this country and the State Department. This is only a small manner in which I can offer my service to help guard against aggression toward us and our neighbors of South America.

Letter (Cont'd)

22 May 1964

In February 1963, I took a fifteen day leave and went to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Later, in April and May of 1963, I took thirty five days of leave and visited the Middle East, North Africa, Spain and Great Britain. So foreign travel is no new trend for me, and I feel that this could be of benefit toward the conditions to be expected. My passport is still effective and all I need is to know that I have been cleared to proceed.

I would like to have the exact address to write and acquire a reservation of the Cuban flight as soon as possible if you can provide it. If I do not receive State Department approval for the trip, I can cancel my position easier than attempting to acquire one at the last moment.

I am certain that you will keep this matter on a classified level in respect to the implication involved. Your attention and advice on this matter would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

[Redacted]

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After 7 June 1964

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